



News From

JACK DOYLE

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

For Immediate Release
Thursday, June 15, 2000

DOYLE HOSTS HIGHWAY SAFETY CONFERENCE

SAFETY BRIEFING LOOKS FOR WAYS TO REDUCE DEATHS & INJURIES ON AREA ROADWAYS

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle will host a major highway safety briefing in Rochester tomorrow, Friday, June 16, to call for implementation of a variety of traffic safety initiatives designed to reduce the number of roadway deaths and injuries that occur on local roads every year.

"Every year in New York State, more than 1,500 people are killed and over 278,000 people are injured in traffic crashes," said Doyle, Honorary Chairman of the conference. "From 1996 through 1998, 130 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes in Monroe County while an additional 26,721 people were injured. These statistics emphasize the need to focus on highway safety and address this very serious issue," said Doyle.

Monroe County's Highway Safety Briefing will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Friday, June 16, 2000, at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center, 123 East Main Street, in Rochester. The briefing's corporate sponsors, Progressive Insurance and RRS Police Records Management, Inc., will provide lunch for the more than 200 business and community leaders who are scheduled to attend.

- MORE -

Vehicle crashes exact an enormous financial toll every year. On-the-job crashes cost employers \$22,000 per crash and \$110,000 per injury due to lost productivity and higher insurance and medical costs. Taxpayer-funded sources, like Medicaid, pay 24% of all the costs associated with traffic crashes.

“This briefing is designed to inform business and community leaders about the seriousness and scope of the problem, and ask them to make a commitment to saving lives and reducing injuries by exploring and implementing ideas set out at the meeting,” says County Executive Doyle.

Officials scheduled to attend the Briefing include New York State Assemblyman David F. Gantt, State Department of Motor Vehicle Commissioner Richard E. Jackson, Jr., and Superintendent of the New York State Police, James W. McMahon. They will be joined by members of local law enforcement and medical communities, judges, local and state elected officials, as well as individuals from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

New York ranks sixth nationally in total number of vehicle-related fatalities per year. From 1989 through 1998, 18,108 people died and more than 2.87 million people were injured in vehicle crashes across the state, an average of almost five fatalities every day. Friday's conference will be the fourth in a series of National Highway Transportation Safety Administration briefings that are scheduled to take place across the state.

#

*For further information, call:
Communications & Special Events at 428-2380
See us on the web at www.co.monroe.ny.us*